



# HULL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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## HULL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

### Quarterly Report: JANUARY 1, 2017 – MARCH 31, 2017

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town of Hull:

The Hull Conservation Commission hereby submits our Quarterly Report for the period ending March 31, 2017. The Commission is composed of local volunteers occupying up to seven available positions that are appointed to 3-year terms by the Board of Selectmen.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Public meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Meetings vary in length, but normally last 2-3 hours. Prior to each meeting, the Commission conducts a site visit for each permit requested. In the winter, site visits take place on Sundays and have taken, on average 2 hours. The Commission addressed the following permit requests and issues during this quarter:

15 Notices of Intent

3 Requests for Determination

0 Wetlands Violation Notices

8 Requests for Certificates of Compliance

2 Amendments of Orders of Conditions

0 Emergency Certifications

#### **COMMISSION ACTIVITIES**

In addition to formal permitting, the Commission offers comment on town projects and works informally with citizens to advise on projects and resolve potential violations. In order to assist citizens, the Commission is developing a 'Frequently Asked Questions' page to be posted on their webpage.

Throughout March, we worked with the Beach Management Committee to coordinate the annual beach grass planting to strengthen the primary dune on north Nantasket Beach and provide public outreach. Although it was rainy day, over 70 volunteers attended. Most volunteers were locals, but there were a few folks from neighboring towns and two joined us from Somerville!

The Conservation Department submitted a request for \$48,000 for 604(B) funds, with \$22,000 in kind from the Town in order to improve water quality in Hull Bay.

#### **Upcoming Initiatives**

Over the past few years, Nantasket Beach has been the temporary residence of multiple pairs of Piping Plovers, which are a threatened species. The Town has already contracted with MA Audubon. If our feathered friends visit again, the Commission will gladly aid the Piping Plover Ambassadors through another season.

In addition, the Conservation Department will continue to work with the DPW to enforce a policy issued by the Selectmen to fill unpermitted dune openings along Beach Avenue. This policy is in place in order to ensure a continual stabilized primary dune, which protects the Town from coastal flooding and provides coastal storm protection.

The Commission will continue to volunteer their time to serve the citizens of Hull by protecting the environment of the town through regulation, education, and environmental planning.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Bannen

Sheila Connor, Chair

Paul Epstein

Elizabeth Fish

Louis Sorgi

Paul Paquin